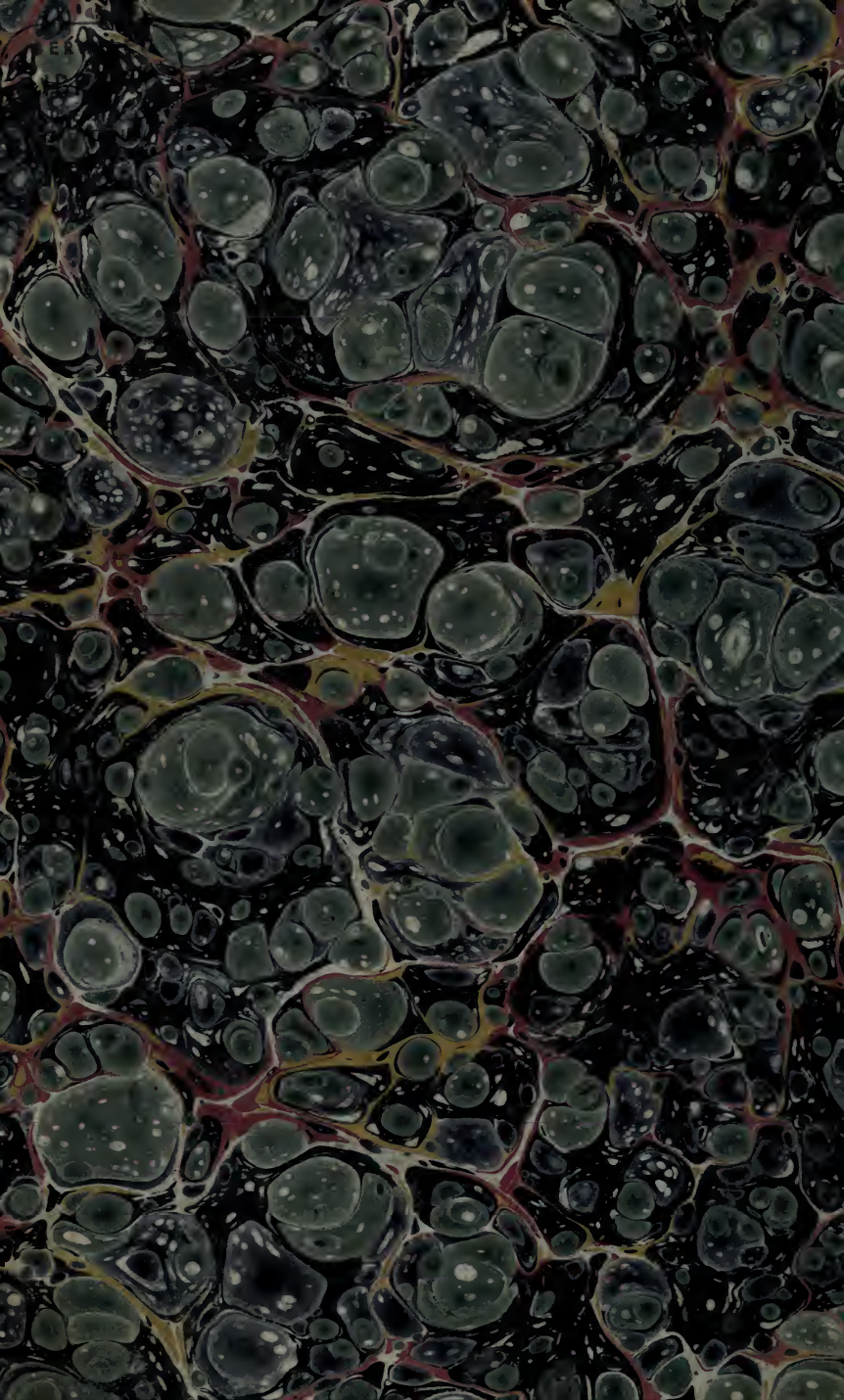


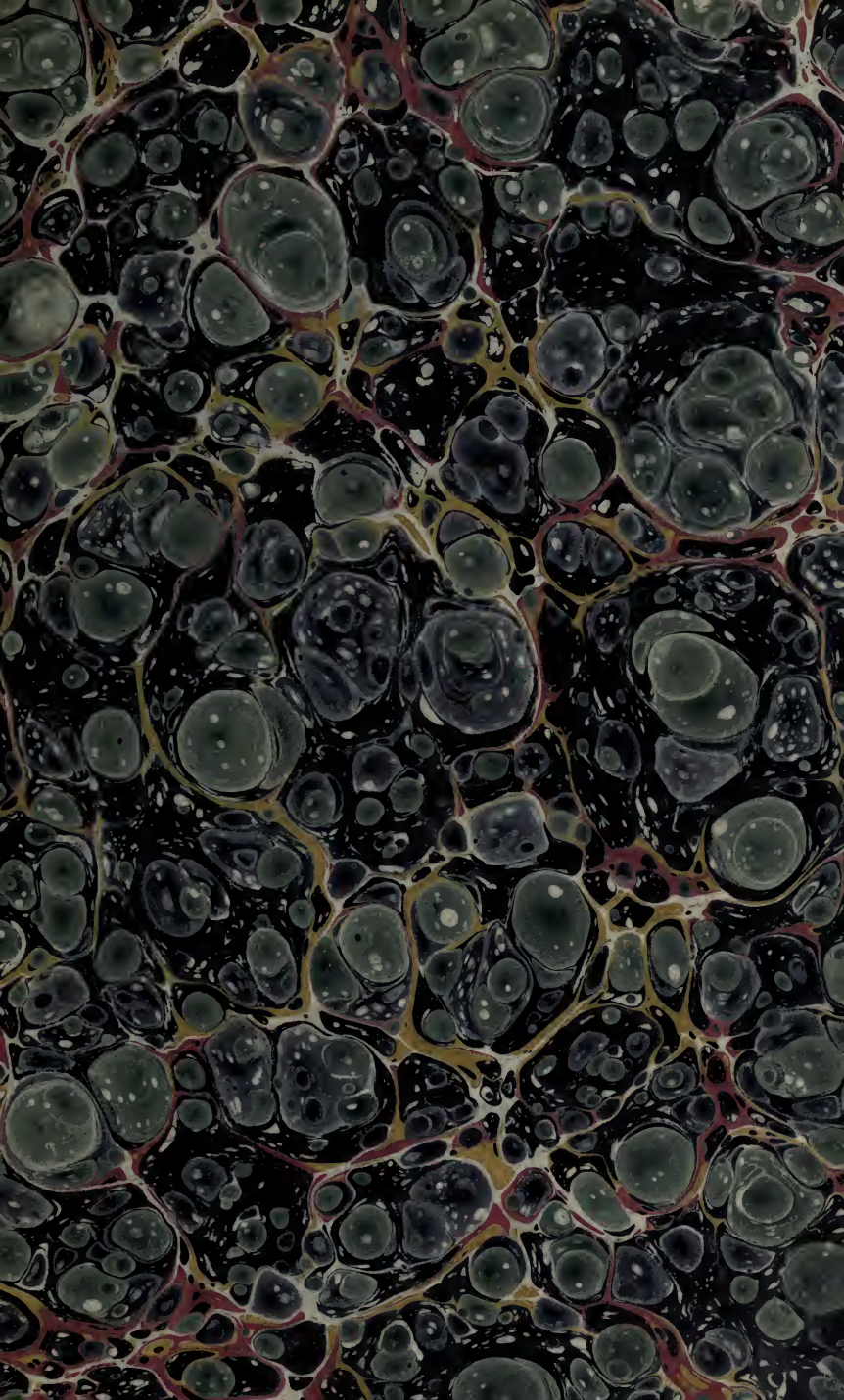
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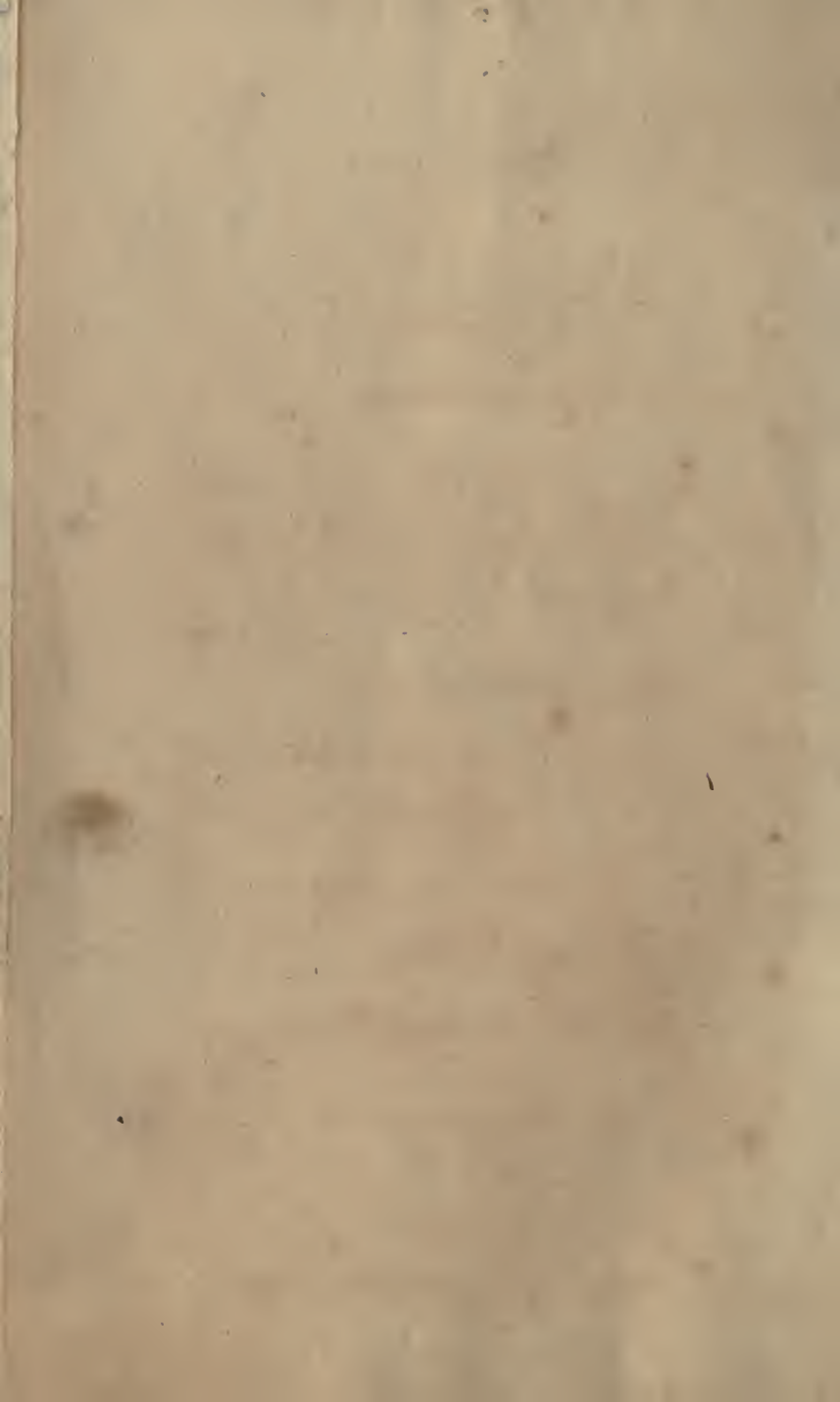




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SUBSTANCE  
OF THE  
SPEECHES

DELIVERED BY

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

GEORGE CANNING,

AT A

PUBLIC DINNER

GIVEN TO HIM ON HIS VISIT TO

Liverpool,

IN THE MONTH OF JANUARY 1814.

---

(JOHN BOLTON, ESQ. IN THE CHAIR.)

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LIVERPOOL:

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SPECIES

A COMPANION

TO GEORGE GANNETT'S

FLORA OF

THE STATE OF

MASSACHUSETTS

BY

GEORGE GANNETT

1824



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1814

MAIN

**MR. CANNING'S**  
**SPEECHES.**

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**T**HE following Speech was delivered by the Right Hon. GEORGE CANNING, on his health being drank at a Dinner given to him by 400 of his Friends and Constituents, on the 10th of January, 1814:—

GENTLEMEN,

As your guest, I thank you from my heart for the honourable and affectionate reception which you have given me. As the representative of Liverpool, I am most happy in meeting my constituents again, after a year's experience of each other, and a year's separation:—a year, the most eventful in the annals of the world; and comprising within itself such a series of stupendous changes as might have filled the history of an age.

Gentlemen, you have been so good as to couple with my name the expression of your acknowledgments for the attention which I have paid to the interests of your town. You, Gentlemen, I have no doubt, recollect the terms upon which I entered into your service; and you are aware, therefore, that I claim no particular acknowledgment at your hands for attention to the interests of Liverpool, implicated as they are with the general interests of the country. I trust at the same time that I have not been wanting

to all or to any of you, in matters of local or individual concern. But I should not do fairly by you if I were not to take this opportunity of saying that a service (which certainly I will not pretend to describe as without some burden in itself) has been made light to me, beyond all example, by that institution which your munificence and provident care have established—I mean the Office in London through which your correspondence with your Members is now carried on. I had no pretension, Gentlemen, to this singular mark of your consideration: but neither will it, I hope, be thought presumptuous in me to confess that I might not have been able to discharge the service which I owe you in a way which would have satisfied my own feelings as well as yours; that I might, in spite of all my endeavours, have been guilty of occasional omissions if I had not been provided with some such medium of communication with my constituents. Of an absent and meritorious individual it is as pleasing as it is just to speak well: and I do no more than justice to the Gentleman whom you have appointed to conduct the office in question, (with whom I had no previous acquaintance,) in bearing public testimony to his merit; and in assuring you that it would be difficult to find any one who would surpass him in zeal, intelligence, and industry.

Having despatched what it was necessary for me to say on these points, I know, Gentlemen, that it is your wish, and I feel it to be my duty, that I should now proceed to communicate to you my sentiments on the state of public affairs, with the same frankness which has hitherto distinguished all our intercourse with each other. Gentlemen, that duty is one which it does not now require any effort of courage to perform. To exhort to sacrifices, to stimulate to exertion, to shame despondency, to divert from untimely concession, is a duty of a sterner sort, which you found me not backward to discharge; at a period, when, from the

shortness of our acquaintance, I was uncertain whether my freedom might not offend you. My task of to-day is one at which no man can take offence. It is to mingle my congratulations with your rejoicings on the events which have passed and are passing in the world.

Gentlemen, if in contemplating events so widely (I had almost said so tremendously) important, it be pardonable to turn one's view for a moment to local and partial considerations, I may be permitted to observe that, while to Great Britain, while to all Europe, while to the world and to posterity, the events which have recently taken place are matter of unbounded and universal joy, there is no collection of individuals who are better entitled than the company now assembled in this room (in great part I presume identically the same, and altogether representing the same interests and feelings, as that of which I took leave in this room about fourteen months ago,) to exult in the present state of things, and to derive from it, in addition to their share of the general joy, a distinct and special satisfaction.

We cannot forget, Gentlemen, the sinister omens and awful predictions under which we met and parted in October, 1812. The penalty denounced upon you for your election of me was embarrassment to the rich, and famine to the poor. I was warned that when I should return to renew my acquaintance with my constituents, I should find the grass growing in your streets. In spite of that denunciation you did me the honour to elect me; in spite of that warning I venture to meet you here again. It must be fairly confessed that this is not the season of the year to estimate correctly the amount of superfluous and unprofitable vegetation with which your streets may be teeming; but without presuming to limit the power of productive nature, it is at least satisfactory to know that the fields have not been starved to clothe your quays with verdure; that it is not by economizing in the scantiness of the harvest



that nature has reserved her vigour for the pastures of your Exchange.

But, Gentlemen, I am sure you feel with me that these are topics which I treat with levity only because they are not, nor were at the time when they were seriously urged, susceptible of a serious argument: they did not furnish grounds on which any man would rest his appeal to your favour, or on which your choice of any man could be justified. If I have condescended to revert to them at all, it is because I would leave none of those recollections untouched which the comparison of our last meeting with the present I know suggests to your minds as well as to my own; and because I would, so far as in me lies, endeavour to banish from all future use, by exposing their absurdity, topics which are calculated only to mislead and to inflame. That the seasons would have run their appointed course, that the sun would have shone with as genial a warmth, and the showers would have fallen with as fertilizing a moisture, if you had not chosen me for your representative, is an admission which I make without much apprehension of the consequence. Nor do I wish you to believe that your choice of any other than me would have delayed the return of your prosperity, or prevented the revival of your commerce.

I make these admissions, Gentlemen, without fear, so far as concerns the choice between individuals. But I do not admit that it was equally indifferent upon what principles that choice should be determined. I do not admit that if the principles which it was then recommended to you to countenance had unfortunately prevailed in parliament, and through the authority of parliament had been introduced into the counsels of the country, they would not have interfered with fatal operation, not indeed to arrest the bounty of Providence, to turn back the course of the seasons, and to blast the fertility of the earth, but to stop that current of



political events, which "taken at the flood," has placed England at the head of the world.

Gentlemen, if I had met you here again on this day in a state of public affairs as doubtful as that in which we took leave of each other, if confederated nations had been still arrayed against this Country, and the balance of Europe still trembling in the scale, I should not have hesitated now, as I did not hesitate then, to declare my decided and unalterable opinion, that perseverance, under whatever difficulties, under whatever privations, afforded the only chance of prosperity to you, because the only chance of safety to your country; and the only chance of safety to the country, because the only chance of deliverance to Europe. Gentlemen, I should be ashamed to address you now in the tone of triumph, if I had not addressed you then in that of exhortation. I should be ashamed to appear before you shouting in the train of success, if I had not looked you in the face and encouraged you to patience under difficulties. It is because my acquaintance with you commenced in times of peril and embarrassment, and because I then neither flattered nor deceived you, that I now not only offer to you my congratulations, but put in my claim to yours, on the extinction of that peril, on the termination of that embarrassment, and on the glorious issue to which exertion and endurance have brought that great struggle in which our honour and our happiness were involved.

Gentlemen, during the course of a political life, nearly co-eval with the commencement of the war, I have never given one vote, I have never uttered one sentiment, which had not for its object the consummation now happily within our view.

I am not ashamed,—and it is not unpleasing or unprofitable—to look back upon the dangers which we have passed, and to compare them with the scene which now lies before us. We behold a Country inferior in population to most of her Continental

neighbours, but multiplying her faculties and resources by her own activity, and enterprize, by the vigour of her constitution, and by the good sense of her people, we behold her, after standing up against a formidable foe, throughout a contest in the course of which every one of her allies, and at times all of them together, have fainted and failed—nay, have been driven to combine with the enemy against her—we behold her at this moment rallying the nations of Europe to one point, and leading them to decisive victory.

If such a picture were merely the bright vision of speculative philosophy, if it were presented to us in the page of the history of ancient times, it would stir and warm the heart. But, Gentlemen, this Country is our own; and what must be the feelings which arise on such a review in the bosom of every son of that Country? What must be the feelings of a Community such as I am now addressing, which constitutes no insignificant part of the strength of the nation so described;—which has suffered largely in her privations, and may hope to participate proportionably in her reward? what (I may be permitted to add) must be the feelings of one who is chosen to represent that community, and who finds himself in that honourable station at the moment of triumph, only because he discountenanced despair in the moment of despondency?

Gentlemen, from the contemplation of a spectacle so mighty and magnificent as this, I should disdain to turn aside to the controversies of party. Of principles, however, it is impossible not to say something, because our triumph would be incomplete, and its blessings might be transient, if we could be led astray by any sophistry,—if we could consent in a sort of compromise of common joy—to forget, or to misstate the causes from which that triumph has sprung. All of one mind, I trust and believe, we are, in exulting at the success of our country; all of one mind, I trust, we now are throughout this land,

in determining to persevere, if need be, in strenuous exertion to prosecute, and I hope to perfect, the great work so happily in progress. But we know that there are some of those who share most heartily in the public exultation, who yet ascribe effects which happily cannot be disputed to causes which may justly be denied. No tenderness for disappointed prophecies, Gentlemen, ought to induce us thus to disconnect effect and cause. It leads to errors which might be dangerous, if unwarily adopted, and generally received.

We have heard, for instance, that the war has now been successful, because the principles on which the war was undertaken have been renounced; that we are at length blessed with victory because we have thrown away the banner under which we entered into the contest; that the contest was commenced with one set of principles, but that the issue has been happily brought about by the adoption of another. Gentlemen, I know of no such change. If we have succeeded, it has not been by the renunciation, but by the prosecution, of our principles; if we have succeeded, it has not been by adopting new maxims of policy, but by upholding, under all varieties of difficulty and discouragement, old, established, inviolable principles of conduct.

We are told, that this war has of late become a *war of the people*; and that by the operation of that change alone the power of imperial France has been baffled and overcome. Nations, it is said, have at length made common cause with their sovereigns, in a contest which, heretofore, had been a contest of sovereigns only. Gentlemen, the fact of the change might be admitted without therefore admitting the argument. It does not follow, that the people were not at all times equally interested in the war, (as those who think as I do have always contended that they were,) because it may be and must be admitted, that the people, in many countries, were for a time deluded. They who argue against us,



say, that jarring interests have been reconciled. We say, that gross delusions have been removed. Both admit the fact, that sovereigns and their people *are* identified. But they who contend that this has been effected by change of principles, let them specify the change. What change of principles or of government has taken place among the nations of Europe? We are the best judges of ourselves—what change has taken place *here*? Is the constitution other than it was when we were told, (as we often were told in the bad times,) that it was a doubt if it were worth defending? Is the constitution other than it was, when we were warned that peace on any terms must be made, as the only hope of saving it from popular indignation and popular reform?

There is yet another question to be asked. By what power, in what part of the world, has that final blow been struck, which has smitten the tyrant to the ground? I suppose, by some enlightened Republic; by some recently regenerated Government of pure philanthropy and uncorrupted virtue; I suppose, by some nation which, in the excess of popular freedom, considers even a representative system as defective, unless each individual interferes directly in the national concerns; some nation of enlightened patriots, every man of whom is a politician in the coffee-house, as well as in the senate;—I suppose it is from some such government as this that the conqueror of autocrats, the sworn destroyer of monarchical England, has met his doom. I look through the European world, Gentlemen, in vain; I find there no such august Community. But in another hemisphere I do find such a one, which no doubt must be the political David by whom the Goliath of Europe has been brought down. What is the name of that glorious republic to which the gratitude of Europe is eternally due; which, from its innate hatred to tyranny, has so perseveringly exerted itself to liberate the world, and at last has



successfully closed the contest? Alas! Gentlemen, such a Republic I do indeed find; but I find it enlisted, and (God be thanked!) enlisted alone, under the banner of the despot.—But where was the blow struck? Where? Alas for theory!—In the wilds of despotic Russia. It was followed up on the plains of Leipzig—by Russian, Prussian, and Austrian arms.

But let me not be mistaken. Do I therefore mean to contend—do I therefore give to our antagonists in the argument the advantage of ascribing to us the base tenet—that an absolute monarchy is better than a free government?—God forbid!—What I mean is this—that in appreciating the comparative excellence of political institutions, in estimating the force of national spirit, and the impulses of national feeling, it is idle—it is mere pedantry—to overlook the affections of nature. The order of nature could not subsist among mankind, if there were not an *instinctive* patriotism; I do not say unconnected with, but prior and paramount to, the desire of political amelioration. It may be very wrong that it should be so. I cannot help it. Our business is with fact. And, surely, it is not to be regretted that tyrants and conquerors should have learned, from the lessons of experience, that the first consideration suggested to the inhabitant of any country by a foreign invasion, is not—whether the political constitution of the state be faultlessly perfect or not;—but—whether the altar at which he has worshipped, whether the home in which he has dwelt from his infancy, whether his wife and his children, whether the tombs of his forefathers, whether the palace of the sovereign under whom he was born, and to whom he therefore owes, (or, if it must be so stated, fancies that he therefore owes) allegiance—shall be abandoned to violence and profanation?

That, in the infancy of the French Revolution, many nations in Europe were unfortunately led to believe and to act upon a different persuasion, is un-

doubtedly true ; that whole countries were over-run by reforming conquerors, and flattered themselves with being proselytes till they found themselves victims. Even in this country, as I have already said, there have been times when we have been called upon to consider whether there were not something at home which must be mended before we could hope to repel a foreign invader with success.

Gentlemen it is fortunate for the world that this question should have been tried, if I may so say, to a disadvantage ; that it should have been tried in countries where no man in his senses will say that the frame of political society is such as, according to the most moderate principles of regulated freedom, it ought to be ; where, I will venture to say,—without hazarding the imputation of being myself a visionary reformer,—political society is not such, as, after the successes of this war and from the happy contagion of the example of Great Britain, it is sure gradually to become. It is fortunate for the world that this question should have been tried on its own merits ; that after twenty years of controversy we should be authorised by undoubted results to revert to nature and to truth ; and to disentangle the genuine feelings of the heart from the obstructions which a cold, presumptuous, generalizing philosophy had wound around them.

One of the most delightful poets of this country, in describing the various proportions of natural blessings and advantages dispensed by Providence to the various nations of Europe, turns from the luxuriant plains and cloudless skies of Italy to the rugged mountains of Switzerland, and inquires whether there also—in those barren and stormy regions—the “ patriot passion ” is found equally imprinted on the heart ? He decides the question truly in the affirmative ; and he says of the inhabitant of those bleak wilds—

“ Dear is that shed to which his soul conforms,  
 And dear that hill which lifts him to the storms ;  
 And as a child, when scaring sounds molest,  
 Clings close and closer to the mother’s breast,  
 So the loud torrent, and the whirlwind’s roar  
 But bind him to his native mountains more.”

What Goldsmith thus beautifully applied to the physical varieties of soil and climate, has been found no less true with respect to political institutions. A sober desire of improvement, a rational endeavour to redress error, and to correct imperfection in the political frame of human society, are not only natural, but laudable in man. But it is well that it should have been shown by irrefragable proof, that these sentiments, even where most strongly and most justly felt supersede not that devotion to native soil which is the foundation of National Independence. And it is right that it should be understood and remembered, that the spirit of National Independence alone,—aroused where it had slumbered,—enlightened where it had been deluded—and kindled into enthusiasm by the insults and outrages of an all-grasping invader—has been found sufficient,—without internal changes, and compromises of sovereigns or governments with their people,—without relaxations of allegiance and abjurations of authority,—to animate, as with one pervading soul, the different Nations of the Continent ; to combine, as into one congenial mass, their various feelings, passions, prejudices ; to direct these concentrated energies, with one impulse, against the common tyrant ; and to shake ( and,—may we not hope ?—to overthrow ) the *Babel* of his iniquitous power.

Gentlemen, there is another argument more peculiarly relating to our own country which has at times been interposed to discourage the prosecution of the war. That this country is sufficient to its own defence—sufficient to its own happiness—sufficient to its own independence ; and that the complicated



combinations of Continental policy are always hazardous to our interests as well as burthensome to our means; has been at several periods of the war a favourite doctrine not only with those who for other reasons wished to embarrass the measures of the Government, but with men of the most enlightened minds, of the most benevolent views, and the most ardent zeal for the interests as well as the honour of their country. May we not flatter ourselves that upon this point also experience has decided in favour of the course of policy which has been actually pursued?

Can any man now look back upon the trial which we have gone through and maintain that at any period during the last twenty years the plan of insulated policy could have been adopted, without having in the event, at this day prostrated England at the foot of a conqueror? Great, indeed, has been the call upon our exertions; great, indeed, has been the drain upon our resources; long and wearisome has the struggle been, and late is the moment at which peace is brought within our reach: but even though the difficulties of the contest may have been enhanced, and its duration protracted by it, yet is there any man who seriously doubts whether the having associated our destinies with the destinies of other nations be or be not that which, under the blessing of Providence, has eventually secured the safety of all?

It is at the moment when such a trial has come to its issue that it is fair to ask of those who have suffered under the pressure of protracted exertion, (and of whom rather than of those who are assembled around me,—for by whom have such privations been felt more sensibly?) it is now, I say, the time to ask, whether at any former period of the contest, such a peace could have been made, as would at once have guarded the national interests, and corresponded with the national character? I address myself now to such persons only as think



the character of a nation an essential part of its strength, and consequently of its safety. But if among persons of that description there be one who with all his zeal for the glory of his country, has yet at times been willing to abandon the contest in mere weariness and despair—of such a man I would ask, whether he can indicate the period at which he now wishes that such an abandonment had been consented to by the Government and the Parliament of Great Britain?

Is it when the Continent was at peace; when looking upon the map of Europe you saw one mighty and connected system, one great luminary with his attendant satellites circulating around him—at that period could this country have made peace, and have remained at peace for a twelvemonth? What is the answer?—Why, that the experiment was tried. The result was the renewal of the war.

Was it at a later period,—when the continental system had been established? when two-thirds of the ports of Europe were shut against you; when but a single link was wanting to bind the Continent in a circling chain of iron, which should exclude you from intercourse with other nations? At that moment peace was most earnestly recommended to you. At that moment, Gentlemen, I first came among you. At that moment I ventured to recommend to you perseverance, patient perseverance; and to express a hope that by the mere strain of an unnatural effort the massive bonds imposed upon the Nations of the Continent might at no distant period burst asunder. I was heard, by you with indulgence; I know not whether with conviction. But is it now to be regretted that we did not at that moment yield to the pressure of our wants, or of our fears? What has been the issue? The continental system was completed with the sole exception of Russia, in the year 1812. In that year the pressure upon this country was undoubtedly painful. Had we yielded, the system would have

been immortal. We persevered, and before the conclusion of another year the system was at an end. At an end—as all schemes of violence naturally terminate, not by a mild and gradual decay, such as waits upon a regular and well-spent life, but by sudden dissolution. At an end—like the breaking up of a winter's frost. But yesterday the whole Continent, like a mighty plain covered with one mass of ice, presented to the view a drear expanse of barren uniformity:—to-day the breath of Heaven unbinds the earth; the streams begin to flow again; and the intercourse of human kind revives.

Can we regret that we did not, like the fainting traveller, lie down to rest,—but indeed to perish—under the severity of that inclement season? did we not more wisely—to bear up, and to wait the change?

Gentlemen, I have said that I should be ashamed, and in truth I should be so, to address you in the language of exultation, if it were merely for the indulgence, however legitimate, of an exuberant and ungovernable joy. But they who have suffered great privations have a claim not merely to consolation, but to something more. They are justly to be compensated for what they have undergone, or lost, or hazarded, by the contemplation of what they have gained.

We have gained then a rank and authority in Europe such as for the life of the longest liver of those who now hear me, must place this Country upon an eminence which no probable reverses can shake. We have gained, or rather we have recovered, a splendour of military glory which places us by the side of the greatest military nations in the world. At the beginning of this war, while there was not a British bosom that did not beat with rapture at the exploits of our navy, there were few who would not have been contented to compromise for that reputation alone; to claim the sea as exclusively our province, and to leave to France and the

other Continental Powers the struggle for superiority by land. That fabled Deity (*a figure of Neptune*) whom I see pourtrayed upon the wall, was considered as the exclusive patron of British prowess in battle; but in seeming accordance with the beautiful fiction of ancient mythology, our Neptune, in the heat of contest, smote the earth with his trident, and up sprang the fiery war-horse, the emblem of military power.

Let Portugal, now led to the pursuit of her flying conquerors,—let liberated Spain,—let France invaded in her turn by those whom she had over-run or menaced with invasion, attest the triumphs of the army of Great Britain, and the equality of her military with her naval fame! And let those who even after the triumphs of the Peninsula had begun, while they admitted that we had indeed wounded the giant in the heel, still deemed the rest of his huge frame invulnerable;—let them now behold him reeling under the blows of united nations, and acknowledge at once the might of British arms and the force of British example!

Gentlemen, I do not say that these are considerations with a view to which the war, if otherwise terminable, ought to have been purposely protracted:—but I say, that upon the retrospect, we have good reason to rejoice that the war was not closed ingloriously, and insecurely; when the latter events of it have been such as have established our security by our glory.

I say we have reason to rejoice that, during the period when the Continent was prostrate before France, that, especially during the period when the continental system was in force, we did not shrink from the struggle; that we did not make peace for present and momentary ease, unmindful of the permanent safety and greatness of this Country; that we did not leave unsolved the momentous questions whether this Country could maintain itself against France, unaided and alone;—or



with the Continent divided;—or with the Continent combined against it;—whether when the wrath of the tyrant of the European world was kindled against us with seven-fold fury, we could or could not walk unharmed and unfettered through the flames?

I say we have reason to rejoice that throughout this more than *Punick* war, in which it has so often been the pride of our enemy to represent herself as the Rome, and England as the Carthage of modern times, (with at least this colour for the comparison, that the utter destruction of the modern Carthage has uniformly been proclaimed to be indispensable to the greatness of her rival)—we have, I say, reason to rejoice that, unlike our assigned prototype, we have not been diverted by internal dissensions, from the vigorous support of a vital struggle; that we have not suffered distress nor clamour to distract our counsels, or to check the exertions of our arms.

Gentlemen, for twenty years that I have sat in Parliament, I have been an advocate of the war. You knew this, when you did me the honour to choose me as your Representative. I then told you that I was the advocate of the war, because I was a lover of peace: but of a peace that should be the fruit of honourable exertion—a peace that should have a character of dignity—a peace that should be worth preserving and should be likely to endure. I confess I was not sanguine enough at that time to hope that I should so soon have an opportunity of justifying my professions. But I know not why six weeks hence such a peace should not be made as England may not only be glad but proud to ratify. Not such a peace, Gentlemen, as that of Amiens,—a short and feverish interval of unrefreshing repose. During that peace, which of you went, or sent a son, to Paris, who did not feel or learn, that an Englishman appeared in France shorn of the dignity of his country;—with the mien of a suppliant, and the conscious prostration of a man



who had consented to purchase his gain or his ease by submission? But let a peace be made to-morrow, such as the Allies have now the power to dictate; and the meanest of the subjects of this kingdom shall not walk the streets of Paris without being pointed out as the compatriot of Wellington; as one of that Nation, whose firmness and perseverance have humbled France and rescued Europe.

Is there any man, that has a heart in his bosom, who does not find in the contemplation of this contrast alone a recompense for the struggles and the sufferings of years?

But, Gentlemen, the doing right is not only the most honourable course of action; it is also the most profitable in its result. At any former period of the war, the independence of almost all the other countries, our Allies, would have been to be purchased with sacrifices profusely poured out from the lap of British victory. Not a throne to be re-established—not a province to be evacuated—not a garrison to be withdrawn—but this Country would have had to make compensation, out of her conquests, for the concessions obtained from the enemy. Now, happily, this work is already done, either by our efforts, or to our hands. The Peninsula free; the awful Commonwealth of European States already in a great measure restored, Great Britain may now appear in the Congress of the world rich in conquests nobly and rightfully won, with little claim upon her faith or her justice, whatever may be the spontaneous impulse of her generosity or her moderation.

Such, Gentlemen, is the situation and prospect of affairs at the moment at which I have the honour to address you. That you, Gentlemen, may have your full share in the prosperity of your country is my sincere and earnest wish. The courage with which you bore up in adverse circumstances eminently entitles you to this reward.

For myself, Gentlemen, while I rejoice in your

returning prosperity, I rejoice also that our connexion began under auspices much less favourable; that we had an opportunity of knowing each others' minds in times when the minds of men are brought to the proof—times of trial and difficulty. I had the satisfaction of avowing to you, and you the candour and magnanimity to approve, the principles and opinions by which my public conduct has uniformly been guided, at a period when the soundness of those opinions and the application of those principles was matter of doubt and controversy. I thought, and I said, at the time of our first meeting, that the cause of England and of civilized Europe must be ultimately triumphant, if we but preserved our spirit untainted and our constancy unshaken. Such an assertion was at that time the object of ridicule with many persons: a single year has elapsed, and it is now the voice of the whole world.

Gentlemen, we may therefore confidently indulge the hope that our opinions will continue in unison; that our concurrence will be as cordial, as it has hitherto been, if unhappily any new occasion of difficulty or embarrassment should hereafter arise.

At the present moment I am sure we are equally desirous to bury the recollection of all our differences with others in that general feeling of exultation in which all opinions happily combine.

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“ *The immortal Memory of the Right Hon. WILLIAM PITT, whose System and Principles are leading the Contest to so glorious an Issue,*” having been drank as a toast, Mr. CANNING rose, and said :—

GENTLEMEN,

IN the enjoyments of social or domestic life there is no man who has not occasionally felt a sensation of regret for the absence of some dear friend, with whom he would have been delighted to have shared them. This feeling, Gentlemen, which we have all experienced in the circle of our families, I am sure we all experience at the present moment, in reference to the great name which has just been brought before us.

Gentlemen, we know that up to the period at which, by the blessing of Providence, the late auspicious change has taken place in the affairs of the world, in every moment of public distress the name of that great man has been brought forward by his political enemies, as the source of all the sufferings and the origin of all the difficulties which we have undergone.

“ The evil that men do lives after them,  
The good is oft interred with their bones :”

So let it *not* be with Mr. Pitt ! If enmity is still alive and active against him, let those who admired him when living acknowledge, in the events of this time, the fruits of his long and anxious labours ; and while reposing under the safety to which those labours have ultimately led,—let them mingle with the enjoyment of that repose a grateful recollection of him to whom they are indebted for it.

It seldom happens that great men reap during their lives the full harvest of all their toils. Contentions,



passions, interpose : and the complete operation of a system is not always seen, and is seldomer acknowledged, while the author of it is an object of rivalry or of envy. But, Gentlemen, when the history of these times comes to be read ;—when events are traced to their causes,—posterity will acknowledge with one voice, that to the stand made by Mr. Pitt in the early period of the French Revolution,—and to the uniform firmness of his counsels,—Great Britain is indebted for her present elevation, and Europe for the security which she is now about to enjoy.



THE  
SPEECHES  
AND  
PUBLIC ADDRESSES  
OF  
Right Hon. George Canning,  
DURING  
THE ELECTION IN LIVERPOOL,  
WHICH COMMENCED  
ON FRIDAY THE 7<sup>TH</sup> AND TERMINATED ON WEDNESDAY  
THE 12<sup>TH</sup> OF JUNE,  
1816.

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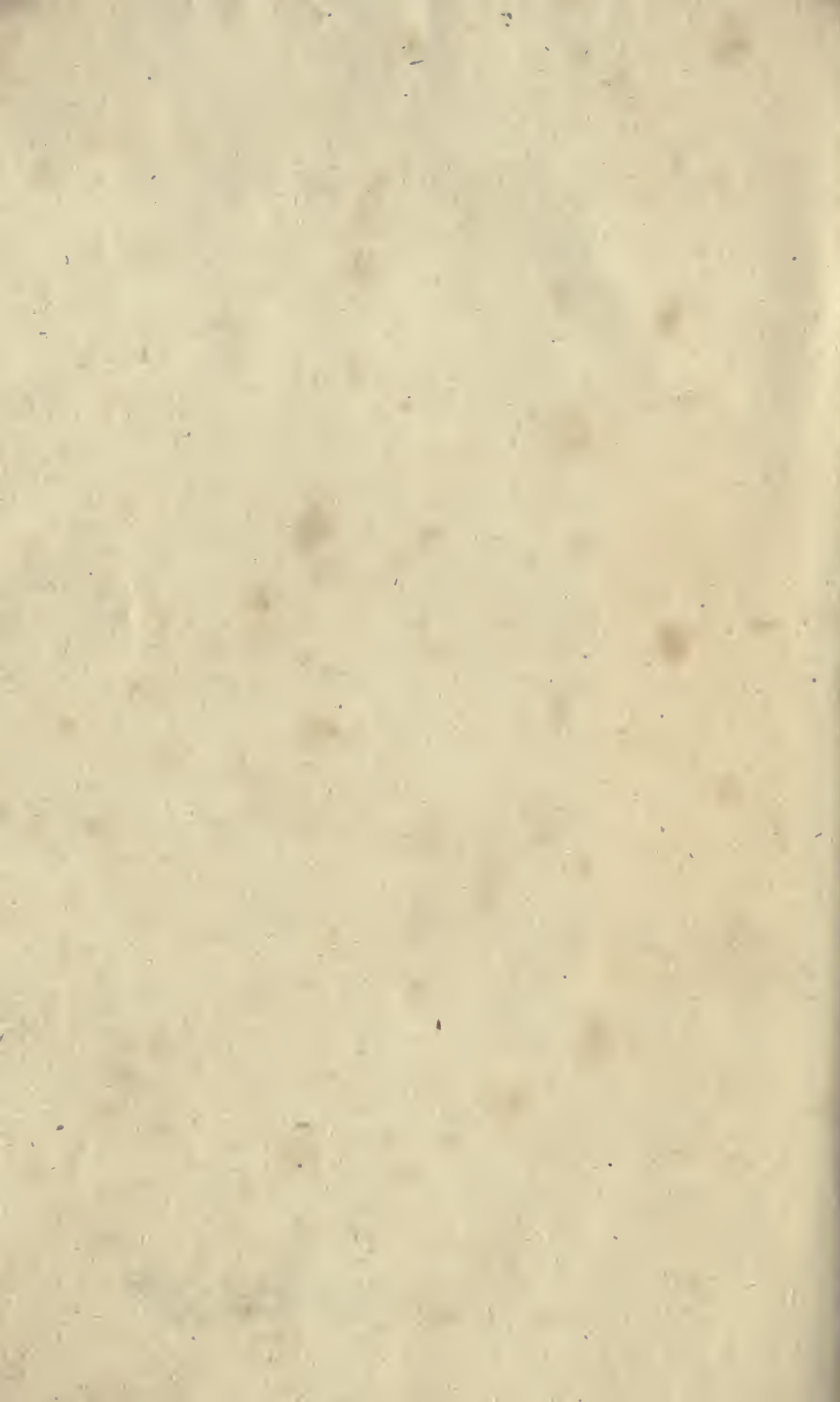
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